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EXAMINER	
VILLECCO, JOHN M	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2622	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
04/22/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/762,547	TANAKA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JOHN M. VILLECCO	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *24 January 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,7,9-15 and 18* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4,7,9-15 and 18* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *5* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed January 24, 2008, has overcome the objection to the specification, the objection to claim 4, the 112, 1st paragraph rejections of claims 16 and 17, and the second 112, 1st paragraph rejections of claims 1-5, 7, and 9-17. Applicant's amendment, however, does not overcome the 112, 1st paragraph rejection of claims 14 and 15.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 7, and 9-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Please see the new grounds of rejection presented on the following pages.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 14, 15, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

5. Regarding claims 14 and 15, applicant claims that the browsing system further includes a print order reception apparatus connected to the printer, the print order reception apparatus including a display for displaying a print charge and time necessary for printing. However, in claims 1 and 11, from which claims 14 and 15 depend, respectively, applicant claims a first embodiment in which the printer acts as the image server and sends the operation screen having the operation component to the camera. In claims 14 and 15 applicant appears to be trying to claim the embodiment discussed on page 40, lines 8-20. In this embodiment the print order reception apparatus acts as the image server by sending the operation screen and operation component to the camera. Furthermore, there is no disclosure in the discussion of the 1st embodiment of a print order reception apparatus connected to the printer. Thus, this amendment constitutes new matter.

6. As for claim 18, applicant claims a browsing system comprising a digital camera, a printer, and an image server. This embodiment seems drawn to the embodiment discussion on page 40, line 21 to page 41, line 14. Firstly, applicant claims that the image server provides to the digital camera an operation screen including an operation component for operating the printer as contact to be browsed. This embodiment does not specifically disclose a printer. It does disclose a print server but does not specifically disclose providing an operation screen for operating the printer as content to be browsed. Particularly, the content to be browsed is supplied by the image server and not the printer server. Secondly, applicant claims operation means on the camera for receiving an instruction used for operating the printer via the operation screen. Again, there is no disclosure of supplying instructions used for operating a printer. There are instructions for placing an order to a print server, but this does not specifically disclose

supplying instructions to the print server for operating a printer. It merely discloses placing an order. Thus, this amendment constitutes new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-4, 7, and 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasaki et al. (PCT Publ. No. WO 97/502243) in view of Ozawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,115,137).

9. Regarding ***claim 1***, Sasaki discloses a camera connectable to a printer in which menu information is sent from the printer to the camera in order to effect print formatting. More specifically and as it relates to the applicant's claims, Sasaki discloses a printer (20) connected to a digital camera (10). When the digital camera (10) is connected to the printer (20), the printer (20) provides to the digital camera (10) an operation screen including an operation component for operating the printer as content to be browsed (menu data stored in the printer is transferred to the camera, see page 21, lines 25-30 and page 22, lines 26-30). The digital camera (10) includes a browsing means for browsing the content (interpreted by the examiner to be either the signal generator (43) or the display (13) since both are used in aiding the user in browsing data) and a display screen (display section, 13) for displaying the operation screen (menu data) as the content to be browsed. The printer (20) provides to the digital camera (10) the operation screen

comprising only an image including the operation component (the camera provides only the menu data for display on the cameras monitor, col. 22, lines 26-30). Furthermore, the operation component comprises both of characters comprising the operation command (layout, calendar, mini; see Figure 10) and buttons for selecting an operation command included in the operation screen (the images in Figure 10 are interpreted to be buttons).

Sasaki, however, discloses that the user makes selections by operating the buttons on the printer. See page 23, lines 16-31. Therefore, Sasaki fails to disclose an operation means on the camera for receiving an instruction to operate the printer via the operation screen or that the printer operates based on the instruction received by the operation means of the digital camera. Ozawa, on the other hand, discloses that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to allow a user to select print options and images to be printed from menu data sent from a printer. More specifically, Ozawa discloses a digital camera (10) connected to a printer (12). The printer (12) sends data conversion software to the digital camera (10), wherein the data conversion software includes various kinds of mode settings and a user interface for setting the modes. See column 6, lines 33-56. The user then uses the operation switches (38b, 38c, and 38d; interpreted to be the operation means) to select the desired print options from the operation screen. See Figures 7, 8, and 13 and column 6, lines 49-56. The selected print options (operation commands) are then sent to the printer. See column 7, line 66 to column 8, line 1. Ozawa discloses a camera connected to a printer in which the camera uses camera controls to select operational parameters of the printer. One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that this feature is an improvement over Sasaki in that the user of the camera/printer system need not be located near the printer to operate the system. Additionally, a user of such an improved

camera/printer system would not have to continually look from the connected camera to the printer in order to make their selections. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the camera of Sasaki to select the operation commands transferred from the camera for the reasons stated above.

10. Regarding ***claim 2***, Sasaki discloses an image memory (37) for storing compressed image signals (page 17, lines 33-35) and controls means (CPU, 42) for carrying out procedures for display of the image data on the display screen (page 22, lines 31-37) and for selection for selection of the image data (page 24, lines 14-26).

11. As for ***claim 3***, Sasaki discloses that when the mode is set the camera allows for the selection of image data. See page 23, line 32 to page 24, line 4.

12. Regarding ***claim 4***, Official Notice was taken in the most recent Office Action regarding the fact that it is well known in the art to reduce or enlarge an image to fit a display screen after it has been transferred from an external device. The Examiner's conclusion of common knowledge in the art is now taken to be admitted prior art because Applicant has failed to traverse the Examiner's assertion of Official Notice in reply to the Office Action in which the common knowledge statement was made. Please see MPEP § 2144.03. As mentioned above in the discussion of claim 1, the combination of Sasaki and Ozawa disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, it is inherent that the display information provided by the printer firmware memory (428) has a predetermined size and layout. However, the aforementioned references fail to specifically disclose that the digital camera displays the operation screen on the display screen by reducing or enlarging the operation screen according to its size. However, Official Notice is taken as to the fact that it is well known in the art to reduce or enlarge an

image to fit a display screen after it has been transferred from an external device. This allows the transferred image data to be fit to the display screen. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reduce or enlarge the screen sent from the printer firmware memory (428) so that it is made to fit the display screen of the camera.

13. As for ***claim 7***, Ozawa discloses that the operation means (operation switches, 38b, 38c, and 38c) are keys or buttons. See Figure 4.

14. With regard to ***claims 9 and 10***, Ozawa discloses that the connection between the camera and printer can be either wireless (col. 7, lines 2-9) or wired (col. 10, lines 7-10).

15. Regarding ***claim 11***, Sasaki discloses a camera connectable to a printer in which menu information is sent from the printer to the camera in order to effect print formatting. More specifically and as it relates to the applicant's claims, Sasaki discloses a printer (20) connected to a digital camera (10). When the digital camera (10) is connected to the printer (20), the printer (20) provides to the digital camera (10) an operation screen including an operation component for operating the printer as content to be browsed (menu data stored in the printer is transferred to the camera, see page 21, lines 25-30 and page 22, lines 26-30). The digital camera (10) includes a browsing means for browsing the content (interpreted by the examiner to be either the signal generator (43) or the display (13) since both are used in aiding the user in browsing data), a display screen (display section, 13) for displaying the operation screen (menu data) as the content to be browsed, an imaging means (CCD, 31), storage means (image memory, 37) and controls means (CPU, 42) for carrying out procedures for display of the image data on the display screen (page 22, lines 31-37) and for selection for selection of the image data (page 24,

lines 14-26). The printer (20) provides to the digital camera (10) the operation screen comprising only an image including the operation component (the camera provides only the menu data for display on the cameras monitor, col. 22, lines 26-30). Furthermore, the operation component comprises both of characters comprising the operation command (layout, calendar, mini; see Figure 10) and buttons for selecting an operation command included in the operation screen (the images in Figure 10 are interpreted to be buttons). Furthermore, Sasaki discloses that when the mode is set the camera allows for the selection of image data. See page 23, line 32 to page 24, line 4.

Sasaki, however, discloses that the user makes selections by operating the buttons on the printer. See page 23, lines 16-31. Therefore, Sasaki fails to disclose an operation means on the camera for receiving an instruction to operate the printer via the operation screen or that the printer operates based on the instruction received by the operation means of the digital camera. Ozawa, on the other hand, discloses that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to allow a user to select print options and images to be printed from menu data sent from a printer. More specifically, Ozawa discloses a digital camera (10) connected to a printer (12). The printer (12) sends data conversion software to the digital camera (10), wherein the data conversion software includes various kinds of mode settings and a user interface for setting the modes. See column 6, lines 33-56. The user then uses the operation switches (38b, 38c, and 38d; interpreted to be the operation means) to select the desired print options from the operation screen. See Figures 7, 8, and 13 and column 6, lines 49-56. The selected print options (operation commands) are then sent to the printer. See column 7, line 66 to column 8, line 1. Ozawa discloses a camera connected to a printer in which the camera uses camera controls to

select operational parameters of the printer. One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that this feature is an improvement over Sasaki in that the user of the camera/printer system need not be located near the printer to operate the system. Additionally, a user of such an improved camera/printer system would not have to continually look from the connected camera to the printer in order to make their selections. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the camera of Sasaki to select the operation commands transferred from the camera for the reasons stated above.

16. With regard to ***claims 12 and 13***, please see a discussion of claim 1 or 11, respectively, regarding the limitations found in claims 1 and 11. As per the limitations of claims 12 and 13, Sasaki discloses that the camera includes compression/expansion circuit (35). Sasaki, however, fails to specifically disclose that if the operation screen is compressed image data the compressing/decompressing means decompresses the compressed operation screen. Given the disclosure in Sasaki of compressing and decompressing the image data, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to provide compressed operation screen data from the printer to the camera. It is well known in the art that compressing image data provides for less image data for storage and transfer. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one or ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the camera of Sasaki to decompress compressed operation screens sent from the printer so that storage memory in the printer is conserved and the time for transfer is lessened.

Allowable Subject Matter

17. Claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claim 5, the primary reason for indication of allowable subject matter is that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest that the operation screen comprises image data of JPEG format and the operation component is laid out in the operation screen by causing a boundary of the operation component in the operation screen to be located at a position corresponding to a multiple of the number of pixels in the compression block in the image data of the JPEG format.

18. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN M. VILLECCO whose telephone number is (571)272-7319. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JOHN M. VILLECCO/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622
April 15, 2008